

## Africa Climate Change Fund (ACCF) Second call for proposals

### Information for Applicants

#### Focus Areas and themes:

The ACCF is seeking innovative and impactful proposals that will **support African countries to transition to climate resilient, low carbon development, and scale-up access to climate finance**. Proposals should be aligned with the priorities of the Bank, including the 10-year strategy (which aims for inclusive growth and a transition to green growth) and the High-Five priorities (which aim to light up and power Africa, feed Africa, industrialise Africa, integrate Africa, and improve the quality of life for the people of Africa), as well as with the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) or related adaptation strategies of the beneficiary countries. Priority will be given to the following themes:

- Supporting direct access to climate finance, including:
  - o supporting the development of high quality, bankable projects aligned with African countries' NDCs and NAPs or related adaptation strategies
  - o Supporting the identification and strengthening of national institutions to access the GCF
- Supporting small-scale or pilot adaptation initiatives to build resilience of vulnerable communities with a focus on:
  - o promoting access to clean energy
  - o promoting climate-resilient agriculture and economic diversification
  - o creating opportunities for youth and women in low-carbon sectors and improving access to water and sanitation

#### Grant amount and funding envelope:

The funding envelope available for this call is USD5 million in the form of grants, and the Fund is seeking concept notes for projects and programmes in the range of USD 250,000 – USD 1 million.

#### Eligible beneficiaries:

This call for proposals is open to all eligible beneficiaries of the ACCF, including African governments<sup>1</sup>, regional organizations, funds, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and research institutions<sup>2</sup>, as well as Bank departments. Bank departments may submit proposals directly<sup>3</sup>, or may work with eligible external beneficiaries to support them in preparing high quality proposals. Proposals from consortia are allowed, as long as all members of the consortium are eligible beneficiaries.

#### Eligible activities:

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<sup>1</sup> Including sub-national, local and municipal governments

<sup>2</sup> To be eligible for funding, NGOs and research institutions must have a registered office in Africa

<sup>3</sup> Proposals from Bank departments must demonstrate value addition beyond the regular work of the Bank and may not be used to supplement department budgets

Grant resources from the ACCF may be used to support the following activities, among others: consultant or expert fees, trainings, workshops, consultations and participation in regional and international meetings, communications, outreach, advocacy, translation services, office equipment and transportation fees, and certain administrative costs and fees.

#### **Selection process and timeline:**

- An initial screening of all concept notes received by the deadline will be carried out by the ACCF Secretariat against the established criteria (below).
- Shortlisted proponents will be invited to present full project proposals for evaluation. Proponents will be given approximately 1 month to prepare a full proposal.
- Proposals will be evaluated by the ACCF Secretariat against the established criteria. Top ranked proposals will be selected for further appraisal. Full proposals not selected for appraisal will be notified.
- Project appraisal will be carried out by the Bank's technical and fiduciary experts (led by the ACCF Secretariat) through a desk review, unless an in-person review is deemed necessary.
- Proposals that successfully complete appraisal will be submitted to the ACCF's Technical Committee (TC) or Oversight Committee (OC) for consideration and approval. Proposals that are rejected at the appraisal stage will be notified.
- No guarantee of funding is implied by a proposal being moved forward to the project appraisal phase, as authority to approve lies wholly with the TC (proposals up to US\$ 500,000) or OC (proposals above US\$ 500,000 up to US\$ 1,000,000).

#### **Co-financing:**

Counterpart financing of at least 5% for external beneficiaries and 10% for Bank departments is strongly encouraged to demonstrate commitment and ownership by the project proponent.

#### **Apply for a grant:**

Eligible beneficiaries are invited to submit a concept note using [this template](#) to [africaclimatechange@afdb.org](mailto:africaclimatechange@afdb.org) before **midnight GMT on 13 August 2017**, with the subject "ACCF concept note: *short project title*". Concept notes should be submitted as Word or PDF documents, and should not exceed 5 pages in length and 1MB in file size. All sections should be completed; incomplete concept notes will not be considered.

#### **About the ACCF:**

The African Climate Change Fund (ACCF) was created by the African Development Bank in April 2014 with an initial contribution of € 4.725 million from the government of Germany to support African countries in building their resilience to the negative impacts of climate change and in transitioning to sustainable low-carbon growth.

The ACCF was able to secure an additional funding commitment of € 4.7 million from the government of Italy at the end of 2015 and a commitment of € 2 million from the government of Flanders, Belgium in 2016, bringing the total contributions to the ACCF since its inception to over € 11.4 million. These commitments have allowed the ACCF to scale-up to a multi-donor trust fund.

To date, the ACCF has approved 8 small grant projects for a total of USD3.3 million. The approved projects are supporting six countries (Mali, Kenya, Swaziland, Cabo Verde, Zanzibar (Tanzania) and Cote d'Ivoire) to strengthen their capacities to access international climate finance, as well as two multi-national projects.

**For more information:**

For more information, please contact the ACCF Secretariat at [africaclimatechange@afdb.org](mailto:africaclimatechange@afdb.org).

**Estimated timeline for the ACCF Second Call for Proposals**

Date	Action
12 July 2017	Launch call for proposals (concept notes)
13 August 2017	Deadline for concept note submission
Mid-September 2017	Screening of the concept notes completed by the Secretariat and requests for full proposals sent to shortlisted proponents
Mid-October 2017	Deadline for submission of full proposals
Mid-November 2017	Evaluation of full proposals completed by Secretariat and feedback sent to proponents
November 2017 – April 2018	Appraisal of best-scoring proposals and submission of proposals for approval in a staggered manner

**Concept note assessment criteria**

Criterion	Score range	weight
All sections of Concept Note template filled in	Yes/No	N/A
Concept note is within the theme of the call for proposals	Yes/No	N/A
Alignment with ACCF and AfDB priorities (including High 5s and 10-year strategy)	0-3	12.5%
Alignment with national policies – National Development Plan, NDC and NAP	0-3	12.5%
Quality (impact and credibility) of logical framework model	0-3	20%
Transforming/catalysing impact	0-3	15%
Technical capacity of proponent	0-3	15%
Financial/administrative capacity of proponent	0-3	15%
Co-financing	0-5	10%